

to handle in the same store waited upon by clerks in the usual way.

It is also apparent that, by this arrangement of store, the goods for sale are protected from handling and disarrangement, except by those having business in the store and by, at least, prospective customers, thus protecting the goods to this extent. It will also be apparent that while the store shown and described is designed expressly for the vending of groceries, the arrangement is equally valuable for the sale of goods of other classes; for example, such stores as "10 cent stores" could employ this system to great advantage. In such stores the merchandise containing cabinets would, of course, be of the construction and arrangement best adapted to serve the purpose of the store.

It is obvious that those skilled in the art may vary the details of construction and arrangement of parts without materially departing from the spirit of my invention, and I therefore do not wish to be limited to such features except as may be required by the claims.

Having thus fully described my said invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. An apparatus for the vending of merchandise having a series of merchandise holders or display cabinets arranged parallel with each other and with spaces between them to form aisles and with the ends of alternate cabinets spaced from the wall or partition in the store, whereby a circuitous path is provided through which the customer must pass from the entrance to the exit, substantially as set forth.

2. An apparatus for the vending of merchandise having a section closed to customers except for an entrance and an exit and a series of merchandise display cabinets arranged within said section in rows in line with each other forming aisles for the pas-

sage of customers, the adjacent aisles of which communicate at alternate opposite ends of said section and form a continuous passage-way from said entrance to said exit, substantially as set forth.

3. A store for the vending of merchandise having a partition dividing the room into an ante-room or lobby on one side thereof and a salesroom on the other said partition having independently situated entrance and exit ways leading into and out of said salesroom, a series of merchandise holders with aisles therebetween arranged in the salesroom with their respective alternate ends spaced to provide passage-ways, said aisles and passage-ways forming a circuitous path which the customer must traverse from the entrance to the exit, and a structure located adjacent the exit arranged to provide a checking and settlement station, substantially as set forth.

4. A store for the vending of merchandise having a partition dividing the room into an ante-room or lobby and a salesroom, said partition being constructed to provide an entrance and an exit, a closure for the entrance, a closure for the exit, a series of merchandise display cabinets or holders arranged in rows in the salesroom and at distances apart to form aisles and having passage-ways at alternate ends whereby a continuous circuitous path is formed from said entrance to said exit, and a structure adjacent the terminal of the path at its exit end providing a checking up and settlement station, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Washington, District of Columbia, this sixteenth day of October, A. D. nineteen hundred and sixteen.

CLARENCE SAUNDERS. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

E. W. BRADFORD,  
E. S. CLEMENTS.